

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: E:RASORENSEN

APPROVED BY: S/S- SESTEINER

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P 181903Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS FROM SORENSON

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM OECD PARIS DTD 17 SEPT 1976 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: TREATMENT OF EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS

AT OCTOBER 14-15 XCSS

1. SECRETARIAT HAS PROVIDED MISSION WITH PREVIEW OF ITS PLANS FOR DEALING WITH EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS AT OCT. 14-15 XCSS. DOCUMENTATION, SOME OR ALL OF WHICH SECRETARIAT HOPES TO ISSUE BY END OF NEXT WEEK, WILL CONSIST OF ANNOTATED AGENDA AND TWO BACKGROUND PAPERS: A) A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE IN OECD IN RECENT YEARS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF EAST/WEST RELATIONS AND B) A SUMMARY OF PRESENTLY AVAILABLE FACTUAL INFORMATION COVERING CERTAIN OTHER BROAD ASPECTS OF THE FIELD

2. PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF ANNOTATED AGENDA (WHICH HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT BEEN FULLY CLEARED WITHIN SECRETARIAT) WILL BE

HAND-CARRIED TO ALBRECHT (EUR/RPE) BY ROBERT MOSSELEM ON SEPTEMBER 18. THIS DOCUMENT ASKS XCSS TO NOTE WORK WHICH OECD HAS DONE IN RECENT YEARS ON EAST/WEST TRADE; EXPORT CREDITS, MARITIME TRANSPORT, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, AND ASKS WHETHER PERIODIC REPORTS ON THESE TOPICS TO XCSS OR COUNCIL WOULD BE DESIRED. IT GOES ON TO ASK WHETHER FURTHER WORK WOULD BE DESIRED ON:

A) IMPROVING STATISTICS IN AREAS WHERE AVAILABLE DATA SEEMS SOFT, I.E. HARD CURRENCY DEBT, DEBT SERVICE AND OTHER NON-TRADE ITEMS OF EAST/WEST BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND EAST/SOUTH TRADE AND PAYMENTS.

B) ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE TRENDS IN EAST/WEST TRADE WHICH WOULD REQUIRE DEEPER STUDY OF SUCH FACTORS AS PROSPECTIVE DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS IN RELATION TO EXPORTS, POTENTIAL FOR EXPANSION OF HARD CURRENCY EXPORTS BY EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, INVESTMENT AND TRADE DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN CEMA AREA, COST AND AVAILABILITY OF EASTERN BLOC ENERGY AND RAW MATERIAL RESERVES IN RELATION TO THEIR DOMESTIC REQUIREMENTS, ETC. DOCUMENT NOTES THAT SUCH AN ANALYSIS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR UNDERSTANDING WHAT ADJUSTMENTS MAY BE DESIRABLE OR FORTHCOMING OR

WHAT STEPS OECD GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERING EITHER IN NATIONAL TRADE POLICIES OR IN CONCERT WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

C) ANALYSIS OF AREAS OF EAST/WEST RELATIONS WHICH DO NOT LEND THEMSELVES TO STATISTICAL SUMMARY, I.E., TRADE RECIPROCITY, DUMPING, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, INVESTMENT ISSUES.

3. ANNOTATED AGENDA ALSO POSES QUESTION WHETHER OECD'S WORK ON EAST/WEST RELATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE PRC AND OTHER ASIAN COMMUNISTS. FINALLY, DOCUMENT SUGGESTS THAT BROADER PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF EAST/SOUTH RELATIONS MIGHT ADD USEFUL DIMENSION TO NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AND ASKS FOR SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED.

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4. COMMENT: MISSION HAS JUST RECEIVED THIS ANNOTATED

AGENDA AND HAS NOT YET SEEN THE TWO BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS. WE NOTE FROM QUICK PERUSAL THAT WHILE FINAL PARA OF ANNOTATED AGENDA DESCRIBES PAPER AS A FIRST ATTEMPT TO TAKE AN OVERVIEW OF EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS, THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF AN EFFORT IN THIS

DOCUMENT TO INTEGRATE THE VARIOUS ASPECTS. SIMILARLY, SECRETARIAT PAPER MAKES ONLY OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO DESIRABILITY OF DEVELOPING COMMON APPROACHES TO EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THIS IS PROBABLY DUE IN SENSITIVITY OF THIS ISSUE AND THE RATHER NARROW MANDATE HANDED DOWN BY LAST XCSS. IN OTHER WORDS, SECRETARIAT APPROACH THAT SEEMS TO EMERGE FROM ANNOTATED AGENDA IS TO CONSIDER SIMULTANEOUSLY SERIES OF DISCRETE PROBLEMS. IF WE WISH TO INSERT BROADER OVERALL ASPECT TO STUDY, WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE THIS CLEAR IN OUR OWN PRESENTATION WHICH WE RECOMMEND BE ADDRESSED TO CAPITALS WELL IN ADVANCE OF XCSS MEETING. TURNER UNQTE ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, MEETING AGENDA, EAST WEST TRADE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE231663
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: E:RASORENSEN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760353-0927
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760945/aaaabmea.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TREATMENT OF EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS AT OCTOBER 14-15 XCSS
TAGS: EGEN, EEWT, US, OECD
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006